

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R1328 CLG-F

S.B. 64
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Health Services
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas requires the Texas Department of Human Services to begin using uniform resource policies in determining eligibility for Aid to Families with Dependent Children and food stamp programs. Uniform resource guidelines would streamline eligibility policies for better understanding and quality control in eligibility determination. S.B. 64 prohibits the Texas Department of Human Services from providing such financial assistance for a child born to a recipient at least 10 months after the recipient began receiving the assistance, and establishes the child care, medical assistance, and other support services still available to additional dependent children.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 64 regulates Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Medicaid benefits for additional children born to TANF recipients.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 31A, Human Resources Code, by adding Section 31.008, as follows:

Sec. 31.0038. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT CHILDREN. Prohibits the Texas Department of Human Services (department) from providing financial assistance for the support of a child born to a recipient of financial assistance. Provides that Subsection (a) does not apply to a child born to a recipient who reapplies for assistance after not receiving the assistance for 12 consecutive months. Requires the department to deduct the earned income disregards allowable under federal law and increase the amount for the earned income disregard for an employed recipient, if the adult recipient of financial assistance becomes a parent of another child. Requires the state to provide child care and medical assistance to a child prohibited from receiving financial assistance.

SECTION 2. Provides that if a waiver by the federal government is needed to implement Section 31.0038, Human Resource Code, the Texas Department of Human Services shall request the waiver and may delay implementing the provision, until the waiver is obtained.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

Makes application of this Act prospective to July 1, 2000.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.